# Symposium\* on

# THE PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS IN CHILDREN

JAMES E. PERKINS, Chairman

Managing Director, National Tuberculosis Association, New York, N. Y.

## THE ROLE OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

#### HERBERT R. EDWARDS

Associate Professor of Public Health and Medicine, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Conn.

### **BCG VACCINATION**

### ARVID WALLGREN

Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics, Royal Caroline Medical School, Stockholm, Sweden

## **CHEMOPROPHYLAXIS**

#### Mrs. Shirley H. Ferebee

Associate Chief, Operational Research, Tuberculosis Program, United States Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.

## OPENING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN\*

## JAMES E. PERKINS

Managing Director, National Tuberculosis Association, New York, N. Y.

AM sure that I speak for all of us when I express to the Board of Directors of the Tuberculosis Preventorium for Children, Farmingdale, New Jersey, first, our congratulations to the Preventorium on 50 years of service in this field, and second, our thanks for arranging such a splendid program this afternoon in honor of its 50th Anniversary.

<sup>\*</sup> Given at the Symposium on The Prevention of Tuberculosis in Children, held at The New York Academy of Medicine, November 12, 1959, in celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of The Tuberculosis Preventorium for Children.

Before calling on the speakers, I would like to pay a little tribute to Dr. Edith M. Lincoln, who is responsible for arranging this particular program. As you know, Dr. Lincoln recently retired after serving 34 years as Director of the Children's Chest Clinic of Bellevue, in the course of which she conducted probably the most extensive and significant study in history of the natural course of tuberculosis in children. During many of these years she has been associated with the Tuberculosis Preventorium for Children in Farmingdale, New Jersey and has served many years as a member of the medical board of that institution.

I think many of you know that last May Dr. Lincoln was awarded the coveted Trudeau Medal at the annual meeting of the National Tuberculosis Association for the most meritorius contribution to the cause, prevention and treatment of tuberculosis. She was very modest in her remarks of acceptance and paid tribute to many others in the field. She mentioned particularly Professor Arvid Wallgren because, as she stated, he had exerted a profound influence on every one interested in the prevention and diagnosis of tuberculosis in children. It is especially appropriate, therefore, that Professor Wallgren is on the program this afternoon.

I feel I need say little at this time about the role of the Preventorium in the tuberculosis control program. The nature of it has changed, and if you have seen the last annual report of the Preventorium you will note the comments in that report with regard to the current program compared with what it was some years ago. It serves to a large extent now as a place for convalescence of children who have had tuberculosis and who do not have suitable homes to which to return immediately. Though it has become more of a rehabilitation center, the old name of Preventorium has persisted.

My task this afternoon, in introducing the three speakers, is a particularly pleasant one, since all of them are old friends.